Sale of Adulterated Petrol

*91. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD.
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in "The Hindustan Times", dated the 24th December, 1996, regarding sale of adulterated petrol; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) In order to check adulteration of petrol/diesel and malpractices at retail outlets, steps such as Filter Paper Test, Density test, furfural doping of kerosene, blue dying of kerosene, surprise inspections by mobile laboratories and regular/surprise inspections by field officers of the oil companies and joint industry teams are taken. Inspections are conducted by State Government enforcement agencies also.

In proven cases of adulteration/ malpractices, action such as issue of warning letters, imposition of fines, suspension of dealership is taken under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and the MS/HSD Control Order. Repeated violations may lead to termination of the dealership.

A special month long campaign for checking malpractices/irregularities at retail outlets was conducted from 20-12-1996 to 19-01-1997 in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai and from 26-12-1996 to 25-01-1997 in the rest of the country.

Action was taken against erring dealers/distributors under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Payment of Dues of Royalty on Electricity

*92. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether requests from some States have been received for payment of dues of royalty on electricity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any action on these requests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Implementation of Economy Package for North-Eastern States

*93. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of the Prime Minister's Rs. 61 billion package, for the Seven North-Eastern States has started in each State;

(b) if so, the amount allotted to each State;

(c) whether the package is meant for the ongoing works or for new works which could not be taken up due to lack of funds with the State Governments;

(d) whether the funds out of this package can also be used for construction of Police Housing Complex in this region;

(e) whether the funds for this package are to be utilised within the year 1996-97; and

(f) if not, for how long such funds would be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND